

Review of: "Low Donor Site Morbidity Supports the Use of Infraumbilical Flaps for Head and Neck Reconstruction: A Retrospective Cohort Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Interesting article with suggestions for head and neck reconstruction options using an abdominal flap. Indeed, the reconstruction of head and neck defects is challenging because it requires a large amount of donor tissue.

We know the importance of irrigation of the vascular pedicle, because the greater the vascularization, the better the successful integration of the flap in the recipient area. Flaps that use abdominal perforators are highly recommended as they meet these requirements.

The surgical technique and the illustrations are well coherent and explanatory. With the figures it is easy even for a health student to understand the notions of the technique.

Although the sample size is small, the present study was multicenter and reported good functional and aesthetic results with the use of infraumbilical abdominal flaps, with few complications.

There was no more complex statistical analysis with data presented only in numbers and percentages. I believe that the data were analyzed by the authors and not published due to the sample size. But the lack of more complex analysis does not prevent the publication of the article that deserves to be disclosed.

Strengths of study:1) Use of independent physicians to assess the functional and aesthetic results of the donor site;2) Multicenter study; 3) Illustrations

Limitations of the study:1) A small sample of 25 patients and 35 free flaps;2) Data collected retrospectively;3) More complex statistical analysis